

Claims

- [c1] A basket for a washing machine, said basket comprising:
a body comprising an outer wall and at least one rib extending radially inward from said wall, said rib comprising at least a first portion having a first cross section and a second portion having a second cross section, said second cross section different from said first cross section.
- [c2] A basket in accordance with Claim 1 wherein said rib extends substantially vertically.
- [c3] A basket in accordance with Claim 1 wherein said rib comprises a first side and a second side, said basket further comprising at least one circumferential support band extending between said first side and said second side, said band extending from said outer wall.
- [c4] A basket in accordance with Claim 1 wherein said first portion is substantially rectangular in cross section.
- [c5] A basket in accordance with Claim 1 wherein said rib extends radially inward from said outer wall for a distance of about 0.395 to about 1.5 inches.
- [c6] A washing machine basket comprising:
an outer wall; and
a plurality of ribs projecting radially inwardly from said outer wall, each said rib comprising a first end and a second end, said first end projecting a first radial distance from said outer wall, said second end projecting a second radial distance from said outer wall, said first radial distance less than said second radial distance.
- [c7] A basket in accordance with Claim 6, said rib comprising a transition portion projecting a variable distance from said outer wall, said variable distance ranging from said first radial distance to said second radial distance.
- [c8] A basket in accordance with Claim 7 wherein said variable distance is about 0.395 inches to about 1.5 inches.

- [c9] A basket in accordance with Claim 7, said transition portion further having a varying width.
- [c10] A washing machine basket comprising:
an outer wall and a plurality of vertically extending ribs projecting radially inwardly from said outer wall at a distance of about 0.395 to about 1.5 inches.
- [c11] A basket in accordance with Claim 10, said wall comprising a plurality of apertures therethrough, said apertures outwardly flared.
- [c12] A basket in accordance with Claim 10 wherein said ribs are outwardly flared at one end thereof.
- [c13] A basket in accordance with Claim 10 further comprising a plurality of circumferential supports extending from said outer wall.
- [c14] A basket in accordance with Claim 13 wherein said supports are substantially flush with an outer surface of said wall.
- [c15] A basket in accordance with Claim 10 wherein a portion of said rib is substantially triangular.
- [c16] A washing machine basket comprising:
a substantially cylindrical outer wall and a plurality of inwardly projecting ribs depending therefrom, each said rib comprising:
a first portion having a first radially extending height from said outer wall and a first tangential width;
a second portion having a second radially extending height from said outer wall and a second tangential width, said first height less than said second height, said first width greater than said second width.
- [c17] A basket in accordance with Claim 16 wherein said first height and said second height are in a range from about 0.395 to about 1.5 inches.
- [c18] A basket in accordance with Claim 16 wherein said first portion is substantially rectangular and said second portion is substantially triangular.
- [c19] A washing machine comprising:

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[c20]

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